

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, I am not objecting to the bracketing, but since this has become a substantive issue, I now plan to prepare a report and submit it to the Legislature in regard to the correspondence that we have had with the Department of Education, their previous position on this, also some copies I have received of letters in clarifying it, so that will give me plenty of time to put that report together.

PRESIDENT: Senator, would you care to amend your motion and make it a request for unanimous consent.

SENATOR STONEY: I would so move, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: All right. Is there an objection? Seeing none, the unanimous consent is granted and the bill shall be bracketed. That completes Select File. Thank you, Senator Cullan. We go to motions. The first motion is by Senator Goodrich. Would the Sergeant at Arms find Senator Goodrich. There is a typographical error on your agenda. That should read LB 92 rather than LB 192. Is Senator Goodrich on the premises.

CLERK: The motion is to place LB 92 on General File notwithstanding the action of the committee, signed Senator Goodrich. The motion was offered February 9th.

PRESIDENT: Would you ask Senator Goodrich to terminate his phone call. Your motion is up, Senator.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Mr. President, I would like to call the body's attention to one thing, first, and that is on your agenda today, it is listed as 192. Motion to place 192 on General File. Actually, it is 92.

PRESIDENT: We have already advised the body.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Sorry, I was on the phone when you did that. Mr. President, members of the body, LB 92 is a bill that transfers the county's twenty percent of medical payments over to the state. What the statutes now provide is that on people who are unable to pay for their own care and these people are paid by the Welfare Department, the county pays twenty percent, the state pays approximately twenty-three percent and the federal government pays fifty-seven percent. What the purpose of this bill is is to have the state assume the county's twenty percent. Now the state and the federal government both cooperate and set the standards by which somebody is eligible. The state actually pays the salaries of the people that work on the county level administering the program. The state and federal government have everything to say about the program, but what we do is we just hand the counties a bill for twenty percent of the cost. Now the total fiscal impact to the counties is somewhere close to \$13,500,000. The bill, as it is written, transfers the entire burden to the state. What I am proposing to do and have proposed to the committee is that we phase it in like five percent per year and then what we are going to have to do is make also a determination on two other points, one of which, do we leave any of this as a county burden. Frankly, I am willing to leave five percent of this burden on the counties if that is the wishes of this body, but what I am asking you to do